

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to incorporate a cross-reference to related U.S. patent application 09/740,927 in accordance with 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2). A petition for claiming the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 120 of application 09/740,927 is also submitted herewith in accordance with 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3). Accordingly, the present application is now a continuation-in-part application of U.S. patent application 09/740,927.

Claims 4 and 18-20 have been amended. Support for the amendments is found, for example, in the specification on page 95. Hence, no issues of new matter are presented. Upon entry of the amendment, claims 1-20 will be pending in the application.

I. Response to Claim Objection

In response to the objection, claim 4 has been amended so that the word "type" has been deleted. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the objection has been overcome.

II. Response to Double Patenting Rejection

In response to the rejection, Applicant hereby submits a Terminal Disclaimer with respect to US Patent Application No. 10/635,575. Consequently, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection has been overcome.

III. Response to Claim Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

In response to the rejection, claims 18-20 have been amended to include the process of ejecting a recording ink through nozzles onto a recording medium. Therefore, amended claims 18-20 satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112. Accordingly it is respectfully submitted that this rejection has been overcome.

IV. Response to Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

A Ishizuka et al. (US Patent 6,613,814)

The present application is a continuation-in-part application of US Patent Application No. 09/740,927, which has a Filing date of December 21, 2000. US Patent 6,613,814 has the same filing date, December 21, 2000. Accordingly, this cited reference is no longer considered to be prior art.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.

B Ishizuka et al. (US2001/0023267)

The present application is a continuation-in-part application of this cited reference. Accordingly, this cited reference is no longer considered to be prior art.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.

V. Response to Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Ishizuka et al. (US2001/0023267) in view of Yatake et al.

(US2003/0106462)

The present application is a continuation-in-part application of Ishizuka et al. (US2001/0023267). Accordingly, Ishizuka et al. is no longer considered as prior art.

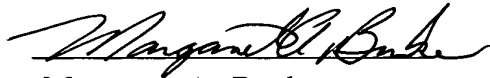
Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.

VI. Conclusion

In view of the above remarks, all the claims pending in the application are believed to be allowable. Early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted



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